

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPM-01 AID-20 HEW-08 COME-00 AF-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0961

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNWPC, SPOP

SUBJECT: USUN VIEWS ON RECENT SESSION OF POPULATION

COMMISSION AND USG PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD

POPULATION CONFERENCE

REF: 1) HONG KONG 2837

2) NY TIMES ARTICLE (17 MARCH 1974 - PAGE 4) -

ARGENTINA DESIRE DOUBLE ITS POPULATION

3) WALL STREET JOURNAL ARTICLE (19 MARCH 1974 -

PAGE 48, PARA 4) -ON NIGERIA

4) SOME RUSSIAN VIEWS ON POPULATION AS

CONTAINED UN OPI BRIEFING OF 5 MARCH

5) LONDON TIMES ARTICLE (11 MARCH 1)74 -

PAGE 1) - THE VATICAN WIDENS ITS BIRTH

CONTROL CAMPAIGN

6) NEGATIVE FRENCH, RUSSIAN, BRAZILIAN,

MAURITANIA, ECUADOR, GHANA STATEMENTS

ON ALTERNATIVE DRAFT WPPA PROPOSED BY

USG AND CIRCULATED AT POPCOM MEETING

AS E/CN /III SS/ CRP.7

REFERENCES 2-5 INCLUSINVE SENT BY AIR POUCH.

1. BASED ON THE PROCEEDINGS AND

ACCOMPANYING CORRIDOR TALK AT THE RECENTLY COMPLETED

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION OF THE POPCOM PLUS OTHER RECENT

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PRONOUNCEMENTS SUCH AS THOSE CONTAINED IN REFERENCES, USUN

BELIEVES THERE IS STRONG FRESH EVIDENCE THAT GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTING COUNTRIES WITH AT LEAST 1.5BILLION OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE (CHINA, SOVIET UNION, EASTERN EUROPE, BRAZIL, ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, ARGENTINA, NUMEROUS AFRICAN COUNTRIES) ARE NOW KNOWN TO BE OPPOSED TO A WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION IF IT IS SEEN TO BE TOO NARROW, TOO RIGID, TOO STRIDENT, "TOO AUTHORITARIAN" IN TONE (REFERENCES INDICATE WIDE SOURCES OF ABOVE VIEWS) IS BELIEVED BY THEM TO HAVE A "MADE IN " OR " DICTATED BY" THE USA STAMP ON IT.

2. AS RESULT OF THIS RECENTLY RECONFIRMED EVIDENCE AND OTHER IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS (SEE PARA BELOW ON MEXICO AND POPULATION), USUN RECOMMENDS THAT THE USG:

A) TAKE A GOOD HARD LOOK AT WHAT WE CAN REALISTICALLY EXPECT SEE COME OUT OF WPC IN BUCHAREST THIS AUTHOST.

B) RETHINK OUR STRATEGY AND TACTICS FOR THE REMAINING PREPARATORY PERIOD BEFORE THE WPC AND FOR BUCHAREST;

C) RECALL THAT IT IS KEY USG INTEREST TO ENCOURAGE MEXICO AS IT BEGINS TO GET A FIRM HOLD ON ITS TRULY DISTURBING POPULATION GROWTH PROBLEM. MEXICO'S POPULATION DOUBLED OVER THE PAST 22 YEARS TO 56 MILLION AND AT PRESENT RATES (3.4 PERCENT A YEAR) WILL DOUBLE AGAIN BY 1995. IN A VERY REAL WAY MEXICO'S GROWING POPULATION PROBLEM IS ALSO OUR PROBLEM. AS DEPT AWARE MEXICO RECENTLY MADE AN 180 DEGREE TURN AND ADOPTED A CAUTIOUS BUT ENCOURAGING POPULATION POLICY. SYG FOR THE WPC CARRILLO-FLORES' ROLE IN THAT TURN-AROUND WAS NOT UNIMPORTANT. HIS BEHIND-THE-SCENE ROLE IN ATTEMPTING MOVE MEXICO FORWARD FROM SQUARE ONE IN THIS AREA CONTINES. IT SEEMS IMPORTANT TO USUN THAT THE USG KEEP THE CRUCIAL MEXICO ELEMENT OF THE POPULATION EXPLOSION PROBLEM IN THE FOREFRONT OF ITS THINKING AND ATTEMPT VIA SUBTLE DIPLOMACY TO IMPROVE THE CHANCES THAT MEXICO WILL MOVE FORWARD IN THIS AREA IN A REASONABLY RAPID, EFFICIENT MANNER. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS NOT IN THE U.S. INTEREST TO BE OR APPEAR TO BE TOO HARD-NOSED AND DEMANDING IN OUR DEALINGS WITH SYG CARRILLO-FLORES REGARDING THE WPPA

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AND OTHER PREPARATIONS FOR THE WPC. AS A FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER, FINANCE MINISTER AND AMBASSADOR TO US, HE HAS CONSIDERABLE INTERNATIONAL STANDING, AND HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD FIREND OF THE USG. HE HAS AND IS DOING A GREAT DEAL TO HELP MEXICO (AND THUS THE U.S.) BEGIN TO FACT ITS POPULATION PROGRAM.

D) KEEP STEADILY IN MIND THAT POPULATION MATTERS ARE IN CASE OF MANY COUNTRIES INEVITABLY TIED TO

DEVELOPMENT. AT TIMES WE SEEM TO OVERLOOK THIS, AND AT OTHER TIMES IT APPEARS TO MANY THAT WE ARE ONLY PAYING A SORT OF TRANSPARENT LIP SERVICE TO THIS CRUCIAL LINKAGE. THIS COSTS US SUPPORT IN MAINSTREAM ASPECTS OF POPULATION ISSUE.

3) WORK OUT A SERIES OF REALISTIC REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR LATIN AMERICA, AFRICA AND ASIA AND THEN TRY, VIA SENDING WELL-QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH THE RIGHT BRIEFS TO EACH OF THE FORTHCOMING REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS TO GET AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OF EACH OF THESE STRATEGIES AND THEIR SUPPORTING RECOMMENDATIONS AND PARTICULARS WOVEN INTO THE REPORT TO THE SYG TO BE MADE BY EACH REGIONAL CONSULTATION GROUP. IT MAY BE A TRUISM BUT IT IS WORTH RECALLING THAT COUNTRIES GENERALLY IDENTIFY MUCH MORE WITH THE CULTURAL MORES AND SOCIAL/ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THEIR REGIONAL NEIGHBORS THAN WITH THE WORLD A LARGE--CERTAINLY THAT IS TRUE TODAY IN LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA.

F) BEAR IN MIND THE PRIMARY AIM OF THE PLAN, AS STATED IN THE LATEST DRAFT OF THE WPPA (A DRAFT WHOSE CONTENTS USG BEHIND-THE-SCENES HAD ALREADY POSITIVELY (AND QUITE PROPERLY) INFLUENCED FAR MORE THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY) IS TO "EXPAND AND DEEPEN THE CAPACITIES OF COUNTRIES TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THEIR NATIONAL POPULATION
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